

Message

---

**From:** Leifer, Kerry [Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 12/9/2020 2:10:42 PM  
**To:** Ozmen, Shamus [Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov]; Aubee, Catherine [Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Overbey, Dian [Overbey.Dian@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: Quick question -- Inert Finder/PFAS (deadline: 11 am EST, 12/8)

Hi Shamus,

I am working with my staff on this, and hope that the changes will be made to InertFinder by COB today.

Kerry

---

Kerry Leifer, Chief  
Chemistry, Inerts and Toxicology Assessment Branch  
Registration Division (7505P)  
Office of Pesticide Programs  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20460  
tel: (703) 308-8811  
fax: (703) 605-0781

e-mail: leifer.kerry@epa.gov

---

**From:** Ozmen, Shamus  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 09, 2020 8:57 AM  
**To:** Leifer, Kerry <Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov>; Aubee, Catherine <Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Overbey, Dian <Overbey.Dian@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Quick question -- Inert Finder/PFAS (deadline: 11 am EST, 12/8)

Many thanks Kerry.

The reporter went ahead with deadline instead of waiting for our response. Attached is the article. We are still pursuing our response to be included in the article.

Is there a timeframe by chance on updating/the removal process? I can flag that to OPA for reference when we receive a follow-up to this article and new inquiries.

Thanks,

Shamus Ozmen  
Communications Branch  
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Mobile: (571) 442-9844  
Office: (703) 347-0283

---

**From:** Leifer, Kerry <[Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov](mailto:Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 9, 2020 8:13 AM  
**To:** Aubee, Catherine <[Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov](mailto:Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov)>; Ozmen, Shamus <[Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov](mailto:Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Overbey, Dian <[Overbey.Dian@epa.gov](mailto:Overbey.Dian@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Quick question -- Inert Finder/PFAS (deadline: 11 am EST, 12/8)

We are now in the process of removing eight PFAS-type inert ingredients from listing in InertFinder based upon the fact that they have been confirmed as not being present as inert ingredients in any currently-registered pesticide products.

Kerry

---

Kerry Leifer, Chief  
Chemistry, Inerts and Toxicology Assessment Branch  
Registration Division (7505P)  
Office of Pesticide Programs  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20460  
tel: (703) 308-8811  
fax: (703) 605-0781

e-mail: [leifer.kerry@epa.gov](mailto:leifer.kerry@epa.gov)

---

**From:** Aubee, Catherine  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 08, 2020 2:29 PM  
**To:** Ozmen, Shamus <[Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov](mailto:Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Overbey, Dian <[Overbey.Dian@epa.gov](mailto:Overbey.Dian@epa.gov)>; Leifer, Kerry <[Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov](mailto:Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Quick question -- Inert Finder/PFAS (deadline: 11 am EST, 12/8)

Thank you! When Kerry is back on duty, he can confirm if these are legacy substances and we will take action to remove them from the database to avoid any future confusion.

Kerry previously shared the following with me, some of which may be useful in responding to the press inquiry:

“ ... the fact that a substance appears in InertFinder does not equate to it being used in currently registered products. However, to avoid these types of “findings” we would seek to remove such substances from the list once we verify that they are not being used in currently registered products.”

Best,  
Catherine  
Associate Director  
OPP Registration Division  
US Environmental Protection Agency

On Dec 8, 2020, at 2:17 PM, Ozmen, Shamus <[Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov](mailto:Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov)> wrote:

Hi Catherine,

Thank you so much for the quick response. When perfluoroalkyl is searched, here is a screenshot of the results.

<image002.jpg>

---

**From:** Aubee, Catherine <Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 8, 2020 2:14 PM  
**To:** Overbey, Dian <Overbey.Dian@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Ozmen, Shamus <Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov>; Leifer, Kerry <Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Quick question -- Inert Finder/PFAS (deadline: 11 am EST, 12/8)

I think yes but we asked for specific information on which two chemicals were identified so we can follow up and remove from the system as appropriate. I never heard back.

Best,  
Catherine  
Associate Director  
OPP Registration Division  
US Environmental Protection Agency

On Dec 8, 2020, at 1:59 PM, Overbey, Dian <Overbey.Dian@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Catherine,

We are trying to confirm that the PFAs inerts listed in the inert finder are there by mistake and should be removed. I've been trying to reach Kerry, but I understand he is on leave today.

Called your work cell but, like me, you haven't set up your voice mailbox!

Can you confirm? If so, ASAP?

**Dian D. Overbey**  
Communications Branch  
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Potomac Yard S-8927  
(703) 305-5018 (O)  
(571) 302-0764 (OC)

**Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**

---

**From:** Dennis, Allison <Dennis.Allison@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 08, 2020 1:42 PM  
**To:** Siedschlag, Gregory <Siedschlag.Gregory@epa.gov>; Ozmen, Shamus <Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov>; Overbey, Dian <Overbey.Dian@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Drinkard, Andrea <Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Quick question -- Inert Finder/PFAS (deadline: 11 am EST, 12/8)

Can you verify asap that these chemicals are in there by mistake/need to be removed?  
And then let's remove them ASAP?

---

**From:** Keigwin, Richard <[Keigwin.Richard@epa.gov](mailto:Keigwin.Richard@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 8, 2020 1:28 PM  
**To:** Dennis, Allison <[Dennis.Allison@epa.gov](mailto:Dennis.Allison@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Dunn, Alexandra <[dunn.alexandra@epa.gov](mailto:dunn.alexandra@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Quick question -- Inert Finder/PFAS (deadline: 11 am EST, 12/8)

I believe the answer is yes, but please check with Catherine. Thanks.

Rick Keigwin  
Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Management  
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Phone: 202-564-2910  
Sent from my iPhone (Please excuse typos!)

On Dec 8, 2020, at 1:27 PM, Dennis, Allison <[Dennis.Allison@epa.gov](mailto:Dennis.Allison@epa.gov)> wrote:

So, do these need to be removed from the database?

---

**From:** Keigwin, Richard <[Keigwin.Richard@epa.gov](mailto:Keigwin.Richard@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 8, 2020 1:25 PM  
**To:** Dennis, Allison <[Dennis.Allison@epa.gov](mailto:Dennis.Allison@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Dunn, Alexandra <[dunn.alexandra@epa.gov](mailto:dunn.alexandra@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Quick question -- Inert Finder/PFAS (deadline: 11 am EST, 12/8)

This question comes up periodically. I know OPP has tried to correct InertFinder. It might be helpful for the Comms Team to reach out to Catherine Aubee, the Associate Director of the Registration Division. She has spent quite a bit of time trying address the issue.

Rick Keigwin  
Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Management  
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Phone: 202-564-2910  
Sent from my iPhone (Please excuse typos!)

On Dec 8, 2020, at 1:20 PM, Dennis, Allison <[Dennis.Allison@epa.gov](mailto:Dennis.Allison@epa.gov)> wrote:

Head's up!

---

**From:** Hackel, Angela  
**Sent:** Monday, December 7, 2020 6:11 PM  
**To:** Dennis, Allison <[Dennis.Allison@epa.gov](mailto:Dennis.Allison@epa.gov)>; OPS CSID CB <[OPS\\_CSID\\_CB@epa.gov](mailto:OPS_CSID_CB@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** Fwd: Quick question -- Inert Finder/PFAS  
(deadline: 11 am EST, 12/8)

Hello,

Please see the below. Her deadline is 11:00 am tomorrow.

Please let me know how you would like to respond.

Thanks,

Angela

Angela Hackel  
Senior Advisor  
Office of the Administrator  
Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Office: 202.566.2977  
Cell: 202.763.3945

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Ev Crunden  
<[ecrunden@eenews.net](mailto:ecrunden@eenews.net)>  
**Date:** December 7, 2020 at 6:07:19 PM EST  
**To:** Press <[Press@epa.gov](mailto:Press@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Quick question -- Inert Finder/PFAS (deadline: 11 am EST, 12/8)

Hello,

I'm working on a quick story about PFAS appearing in an insecticide, Anvil 10+10, and I noticed on EPA's Inert Finder application that perfluoroalkyl substances (seemingly two of them?) appear as approved ingredients for non-food use only. Just wanted to confirm that was the case and if there is any concern about those chemicals, and/or if EPA has any concern about PFAS appearing in pesticides generally?

Thanks so much for any help -- my deadline is tomorrow, 11 a.m. EST.

Best,  
Ev

**E.A. (Ev) Crunden**

Chemicals and Hazardous Waste  
Reporter, E&E News  
[ecrunden@eenews.net](mailto:ecrunden@eenews.net)  
413-341-7591  
Pronouns: they/them